88 >> RETROSPECT FOREST

AND NOW I FIND MYSELF IN THIS STRANGE BUILDING WITH NO IDEA OF WHERE I AM.

SHINTARO KISARAGI. AGE: 18. JOB: SHUT-IN.

HOBBIES: MESSING AROUND WITH COM-PUTERS.

MY SISTER, MOMO, IS HERE WITH ME FOR SOME REASON...

—OH, RIGHT!

...AND SHE JUST FILLED ME IN ON THE EVENTS THAT LED US **BOTH** HERE.

AND THEN AFTER THAT, I HAD TO CARRY YOUR ASS BACK HERE, SHINTARO-KUN.

IN THIS BLAZING SUMMER HEAT, MAN!!

SO WHEN I SENT ENE INTO THE CONTROL ROOM...

...THEY MADE THEIR MOVE AT THE EXACT SAME TIME.....!?

I.....

UNGH...

SO... THANKS FOR SAVING ME, I GUESS...?

SOMETHIN' TELLS ME HE REALLY WANTS TO SAY SOMETHIN' ELSE.....

GYU (CLENCH)

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON.....

I'D REALLY BETTER NOT GET INVOLVED WITH THESE—

UH...?

WELL, MAN, I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT A TON OF QUESTIONS FOR US!

THIS GOES WAY BEYOND QUIRKY...

AN INVISIBLE WOMAN, A MEDUSA, THIS CHAMELEON GUY...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. WE'RE HAPPY TO BE OF SERVICE!

LEMME JUST INTRO-DUCE US AGAIN...

THIS IS A SERIOUSLY DANGEROUS GANG!!

SETO NO. 2

THIS HUGE, FROG-LIKE GUY IS NO. 2, SETO!

AND THIS WHITE PUFFBALL HERE IS MARIE. SHE'S NO. 4!

KIDO NO. 1

THIS LADY WITH THE MEAN-LOOKIN' EYES IS KIDO, NO. 1 AND BOSS OF THE MEKAKUSHI-DAN!

"MEAN-LOOKING," HUH? SORRY IF IT SEEMS THAT WAY...

NO. 4

HA HA!

YOU MEAN MY GREEN HOODIE?

FROGS ARE A LOT SMALLER TOO.

YEAH H H H!!

NO. 6

NO. 5

NO. 3

NOW FOR THE NEW GUYS! KISARAGI-CHAN HERE IS NO. 5!

AND ENE-CHAN'S NO. 6!

AND FINALLY ...

...MY NAME'S KANO, AND I'M NO. 3 AROUND HERE.

AS FOR WHAT WE DO...WELL, NOTHING THAT BRINGS US OUT IN THE OPEN.

SOMETIMES WE GO TO FREAKY PLACES TO FULFILL... MISSIONS AND STUFF.

OTHER-WISE, WE JUST HANG OUT AND CHILL!

KANO.

SO YOU DON'T HAFTA BE NERVOUS AT ALL OR ANY—

YUP!

WHAT'S WITH THOSE STUPID MEMBER-SHIP NUMBERS?

AND WHAT'S HE MEAN, "FREAKY" ...?

HUH... I SEE...

WISE, THEREFORE,

IN HERE, ONCE YOU GET USED TO EVERY-THING!

SHINTARO-KUN...

W-WAIT!

GIVE ME A SEC-OND!

ISN'T THIS THE SAME SITUATION MOMO TOLD ME ABOUT...?

OH MAN, THIS ISN'T GOOD...

YEOW!

BOGU (WHAM)

OH NO, DID I...?

AH!

.....

YOU DID IT AGAIN...

GO

GO

GO

GO (RMBL)

GO

I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!!

I GUESS NOW THAT YOU KNOW OUR SECRETS, WE CAN'T LET YOU GO...

...BUT WELCOME TO THE GANG, NO. 7— SHINTARO.

YOU DON'T GET TO REFUSE THE INVITE, BY THE WAY.

WELL, I KNOW IT'S THIS IDIOT'S FAULT.....

—HEY, MOM!!

NICE TO MEET YOU, ROOKIE.

...HUH? HOW OLD AM I? OH, DON'T TELL ME YOU FORGOT, MOM!

THEY MADE ME MEMBER NO. 7!

I JOINED THIS THING CALLED THE MEKAKUSHI-DAN!

I JUST MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS!

I'M EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD ...!!

MASTER! GET UP SO WE CAN GO TO THE AMUSEMENT PARK!

OH, UH, BUT PROBABLY NOT THE DEPARTMENT STORE ONE.

I BET IT'S CLOSED TODAY, AFTER ALL THE STUFF THAT HAPPENED.

AWW... WELL, IT'S A BIT FAR, BUT THERE'S ANOTHER ONE IN THE SUBURBS!

I'M JUST GLAD MY PHONE'S WORKING AGAIN.

NOW I CAN GO OUT WITHOUT HAVING TO WORRY ABOUT A THING!

WISH I COULDA SEEN YOU SOAKED IN TEA!

SHINTARO.

ONCE YOU'VE EATEN, YOU'RE GOING ON YOUR FIRST MISSION.

AHHH... WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME...?

.....THIS...

KA (FLASH)

ドロ

ミルファァ...

JUWAAAA (BLAAAAZE)

THIS WHOLE AMUSEMENT-PARK THING... I CAN'T DO IT...

JUST LOOKING AT YOU MAKES ME FEEL DISGUSTING, ONII-CHAN.

IF YOU GO HOME, MASTER, I'LL SHOW EVERYONE YOUR FOLDER OF SHAME!

I COULD'VE TURNED THEM DOWN IF ONLY ENE HADN'T BEEN THERE...

WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING HERE...?

GEEZ...

HELLO? ARE YOU LISTEN-ING!?

I SAID, YOU LOOK GROSS!

SHE USED TO BE A LOT CUTER... CALLING ME "ONII-CHAN, ONII-CHAN" AND ALL THAT...

THAT OUTFIT IS SO LAME TOO.

THIS ISN'T SOME KIND OF SWEATING CONTEST, YOU KNOW.

. . . .

SO WHAT?

I'M NOT CAUSING YOU ANY PROBLEMS.

UH...

WHAT!?

DID THEY MAKE YOU WEAR THAT AFTER LOSING A BET, OR WHAT?

AND BESIDES, WHAT ABOUT YOUR OUTFIT, HUH?

鎖国

大江戸

MOMO GRAY SHIRT: ISOLATED
WHITE SHIRT: GREATER EDO

URK...

JUST SHUT UP!

I CAN IMAGINE YOU CRYING OVER HOW DELICIOUS SOME STUPID FARMER'S VEGETABLES ARE AND STUFF.

YOU LOOK LIKE A COMEDIAN TRYING TO HITCHHIKE ACROSS THE COUNTRY FOR A TV SHOW.

YOU DON'T SEE HOW CUTE THIS TOP IS...?

YOU HAVE, LIKE, NO FASHION SENSE WHATSO-EVER, DO YOU!?

鎖国

大江戸

WHA...!?

BISHI (JAB)

YOU KNOW... I KNOW WHAT YOU DO EVERY NIGHT.

YOU JUST SIT IN YOUR ROOM, CACKLING AT "LET'S PLAY" VIDEOS!

HEH HEH HEH HEH...

WELL, YOU KNOW, I PASSED BY YOUR ROOM ON THE WAY TO THE BATHROOM.

YOU HAD THE DOOR, LIKE, HALF OPEN...

IT WAS SO GROSS.

YOU...

NO WAY...

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT!?

SITTING IN THE DARK, EATING THOSE DRIED SQUID BITS...

IT'S LIKE YOU'RE AN OLD MAN OR SOME-THING!

ENE-CHAN TOLD ME, YOU KNOW! SHE SAID, "MY MASTER'S SEXUAL DRIVE IS LIMIT-LESS"!

THAT'S REALLY EMBAR-RASSING TO ME, YOU KNOW!!?

YOU'RE HORRI-BLE!! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!!

YOU'RE JUST LOOKING AT DIRTY PICS THE WHOLE TIME YOU'RE IN YOUR ROOM!

WHAT ABOUT YOUR HABITS, HUH!?

THE SAME MISTAKE MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY.....?

...YOU HAVE TO RUN OUT OF THE ROOM EACH TIME YOU CLICK ON THAT PAGE TOO...

ENE-CHAN TOLD ME...

!!

UH...

WHOA, WHOA, THIS AIN'T GOOD.

EVERYONE MAKES MISTAKES, YOU KNOW!?

OH REALLY?

OH RIGHT... THAT. I JUST ACCIDENTALLY CLICKED ON SOME WEIRD BANNER AD, OKAY!?

STOP IT!!

THIS IS AWFUL ...!

FIRST I'M FORCED OUTSIDE, AND NOW ALL MY SECRETS ARE LAID BARE...!!

TH... THAT...

THAT WAS.....!!

BASHI (SLAP)

Oww!

HEY, WHAT'RE YOU TWO GOING ON ABOUT?

AW, IT SURE IS NICE...

...SEEING YOU SIBLINGS PALLING AROUND LIKE THAT!

NIKA GRIND

NO.

GEEZ, ONII-CHAN, YOU NEVER REMEMBER ANYBODY'S NAME...

NO, DUMMY, IT'S SETTO-SAN!

ZETTO-SAN, RIGHT?

GNH!

YOU'RE..... UH...

GA (BASH)

IT'S SETO...

NNGH... I'M SORRY, SETO-SAN.

HA-HA-HA! NOT AT ALL! NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT!

AW, IT'S FINE, MARIE.

BESIDES, I LIKE "SETTO"! SOUNDS KINDA COOL!

MESSING UP HIS NAME... THAT'S JUST MEAN.

HA HA HA!!

PFFT!

BUT YOU CAN'T DO THIS FOREVER, Y'KNOW, MARIE.

YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME INDOORS— THAT'S WHY YOU GET TOO EXHAUSTED TO WALK.

SHUT-IN FOR TWO YEARS

I-I KNOW... I'LL TRY TO GO ON LONGER WALKS...

...

...AND NOW ALL THIS SQUABBLING ABOUT A STUPID NAME...?

FIRST I'M FORCED OUT-DOORS...

BUT...

...."SETTO" IS KINDA COOL TOO, MAYBE...

HAH.

I GOTTA SAY.....I'M IMPRESSED YOU CAN CARRY SOMEONE IN THIS HEAT.

HM? OH, I'M FINE. I CARRY AROUND ALL KINDS OF STUFF IN MY LINE OF WORK, SO IT'S NORMAL FOR ME.

IN FACT, MARIE'S REALLY EASY. SHE'S SO LIGHT!

KIRA (SPARKLE)

I'M REALLY SORRY FOR THIS, GUYS.

I WISH WE COULD'VE TAKEN THE BUS...

WELL, KIDO'S SKILL DOESN'T WORK IF YOU BUMP INTO FOLKS...

IT'S REALLY NO PROBLEM! BESIDES, I LIKE WALKING!

SAY... WHERE DID KIDO GO, ANY-WAY?

HER AND THAT KANO GUY TOO...

THEY SAID THEY'D JOIN US LATER!

鎖国

大江戸

BUT I KNOW WHERE THE PARK IS, MORE OR LESS...

HEY, ISN'T THAT IT?

KANO-SAN TOLD US IT WAS LIKE THEY MADE AN AMUSEMENT PARK OUT OF A NATIONAL FOREST!

OOH, IT LOOKS LIKE IT!

HEY, MARIE, WE MADE IT!

WOW, WE DID! IT LOOKS SOOOO GREAT!!

HEY, ENE-CHAN'S GOTTEN KINDA QUIET, HASN'T SHE?

SHE TOLD ME TO TELL HER WHEN WE'D ARRIVED, THEN SHE SHUT HER-SELF OFF.

SHE WANTED TO CONSERVE MY BATTERY CHARGE.

AH. MAKES SENSE. BETTER WAKE HER UP SOON, THEN...

AH!

WOW, LOOK AT ALL THE PEOPLE GETTING OFF...

I'D BETTER CALL THEM!

IS THAT THE BOSS?

OHH, IT IS!!

UH, HELLO, BOSS? YOU THERE?

WE'RE RIGHT BY THE GATE...

OKAY!

WE'LL BE WAITING RIGHT HERE, ALL RIGHT?

SO AS LONG AS WE'VE GOT KIDO'S ABILITY...

...YOU CAN ENJOY THE PARK ALL YOU WANT TO... RIGHT?

SORRY TO KEEP YOU.

NOT AT ALL! WE ONLY JUST GOT HERE!

RIGHT!

THAT'S EXACTLY IT!

NI CGRIND

I WANNA GO ON THE ROLLER COASTER !!!

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO AN AMUSE-MENT PARK IN AGES!

WHAT SHOULD WE RIDE FIRST, HUH?

.....I...

YAY!

WHEE!

UH, SURE THING.

I'LL BE WAITING HERE ON THE BENCHES, SO...

WHAAA?

IT'S OUR FIRST RIDE! LET'S ALL GO TOGETH-ER!!

WELL, UH... I'M NOT TOO GOOD WITH BIG COASTERS...

OH HUSH! ONCE YOU STRAP IN, IT'LL BE FINE! OFF WE GO!

.....

鎖国

AND THE WHEELS OF DISASTER FLYING OVER THEM...

YOU CALL THEM "CARS." I CALL THEM "COFFINS."

THOSE SNAKING RAILS...

TWISTING OVER AND OVER THEMSELVES IN DYNAMIC HORROR...

OKAY!

BETTER TIE BACK YOUR HAIR, MARIE. IT MIGHT GET CAUGHT IN SOME-THING.

NO PROBLEM HERE...

WAI (CHATTER)

YOU ALL RIGHT, KIDO?

WHOO! FIRST ROW!!

WHY DO I HAVE TO BE HERE.....?

I...

OH, OF COURSE HE IS. HE'S MY BROTHER!

I...

YOU STILL WITH US TOO, SHINTARO-KUN?

GATA (SHAKE)

GATA

BURU (SHIVER)

BURU

I'M... NOT FINE AT ALL...

HYAAH!!!

GATAN (CLANK)

KYAA-!!

KATAN

KATAN

HA-HA-HA! YOU'RE SUCH A FRAIDY CAT, ONII-CHAN!!

AH...

AHHH...

KATAN

EEE...

EEE...

KATAN

YAY, IT'S MOVING!!

KATAN (CLACK)

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!!!

GOU (ZOOOOM)

KATAN

KATAN

KATAN

NO... NO NO NO NO...

I KNOW WHAT'S COMING...

KATAN!!

KATA (CLACK)

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATA

ONCE WE REACH THE TOP OF THE COASTER...

...I WON'T COMING BACK DOWN ALIVE...

KATAN (CLUNK)

AH...

WHEEEE!!!!

AAAA

AAAAAA

RRH...
BLRRH...

KATA (CLACK)

KATA

KATA

KATA

KATAN (CLANK)

KATAN

KATA

GOTON (CLUNK)

WHOO-HOO!!

WHEW! THAT WAS A TOTAL BLAST!

YOU SEE? THAT WASN'T SO BAD!

WAS IT?

UH, ONII.....?

SHINTARO... YOU HAVE TO LET THE NEXT RIDERS GET ON.

HMPH... THAT WAS JUST A DUMB KIDDIE RIDE.....

HEY, SHINTARO-SAN?

OHH? A "KIDDIE RIDE," HUH.....?

SERI-OUSLY.

THIS HAS TO BE THE WORST DAY EVER...

BL AR RR GHRF

ONII-CHAN !!!?

COULD IT BE...

...YOU'RE NOT FEELING TOO WELL, OR...?

URP...